



April 24, 2006

Missoula, Lake, Flathead, Sanders and Lincoln county newspapers

RE: Notice of Revised Application for an Operating Permit and Notice of Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Plum Creek's Proposed Rock Product Sites in Missoula, Lake, Flathead, Sanders and Lincoln counties.

Dear Editor:

Please place the following notice in the legal publication section of your newspaper once each week for three consecutive weeks:

Legal Notice

Notice of Revised Application for an Operating Permit Amendment (pursuant to the Metal Mine Reclamation Act (MMRA), Section 82-4-353 (1), MCA). Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Plum Creek Timberlands, Inc. (Plum Creek) of Kalispell, MT applied for an operating permit to quarry and collect rock products on its private lands on January 24, 2003 from the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Environmental Management Bureau in Helena. The operating permit application has been modified several times since 2003 to address agency concerns and to add as many sites as possible so the environmental review process could analyze the potential maximum number of acres of disturbance over the life of the permit. The operating permit application is now complete. This Draft EIS evaluates the potential impacts from 94 rock products operations. DEQ must decide whether to approve the permit as proposed, deny the request for an operating permit, or approve the operating permit with modifications.

The Draft EIS addresses issues and concerns raised during public involvement and from agency scoping. The agencies have decided to approve the permit with modifications as the preliminary preferred alternative. This is not a final decision. This conclusion may change based on comments received from the public on this notice of revised application, availability of the Draft EIS, new information, or new analysis that may be needed in preparing the Final EIS.

Copies of this Draft EIS can be obtained by writing or calling the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, c/o Patrick Plantenberg, P. O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620, telephone (406) 444-4960; e-mail address

pplantenberg@mt.gov. The Draft EIS will also be posted on the DEQ web page: www.deq.state.mt.us.

Public comments concerning the adequacy and accuracy of the Draft EIS will be accepted for 30 days, until May 25, 2006. Written comments may be sent to the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, Environmental Management Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901, attn: Patrick Plantenberg.

Since the Final EIS may only contain public comments and responses, and a list of changes to the Draft EIS, please keep this Draft EIS for future reference.

Copies of the application can be reviewed by the public at DEQ offices at 1520 E. 6th Ave., in Helena, MT.

Please send your invoice, tear sheet and affidavit of publication to DEQ at the above address to the attention of Patrick Plantenberg. To ensure prompt payment, please indicate that the bill applies to Doc # EMB5036141. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patrick Plantenberg
Operating Permit Section Supervisor
Environmental Management Bureau

File pending plum creek.37

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